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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/071,420 | 02/08/2002 | Timothy J. Valek | 44046.203.187.1 | 1714 |

22859 7590 11/28/2003

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUNG V

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

3723

DATE MAILED: 11/28/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/071,420

Applicant(s)

VALEK ET AL.

Examiner

Dung V Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-27 and 32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-13, 20, 22 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14-19, 21, 24-27 and 32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4&5. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claim 1-9 and 28-31 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 7. Also, Applicant has canceled claims 1-9 and 28-31.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: typo error, page 13, line 8, "all 32" should be "ball 32". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 32 is objected to because of the following informalities: typo error, line 7, "the stable" should be "the table". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 10-13, 20, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rhodes (USPN 4,630,407). Rhodes discloses an apparatus for removing coatings from portions of first and second surfaces of a substrate 84, the portion comprising a width and a depth to be removed, the apparatus comprising a support surface 56 configured for slidable receipt of a substrate 84, the support surface 56

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including a mounting portion, a first grinding apparatus 34 mounted at the mounting portion of the support surface 56, second grinding apparatus 34 mounted at the mounting portion of the support surface 56, opposite the first grinding apparatus 34, a first motor 46 to drive the first grinding apparatus 34 and a second motor 46 to drive the second grinding apparatus 34, a first adjustment mechanism 50 to control a distance of the first grinding apparatus 34 from the substrate 84, a second adjustment mechanism 50 to control a distance of the second grinding apparatus 34 from the substrate 84, wherein the support surface comprising a table having a table surface, wherein the table surface includes a plurality of rollers 86 for slidable receipt of the substrate 84, wherein the rollers 86 are spaced apart from one another, wherein the first motor 46 and second motor 46 are alternating current motors (note Fig. 1-4, col. 3, line 52 to col. 8, line 68).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 32 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection set forth in this Office action.
7. Claims 14-19, 21 and 24-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor render obvious, the table including a mounting portion and an access recess for an operator, in combination with the rest to the limitations in claim 32.

Conclusion

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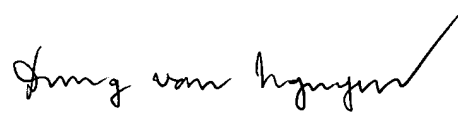
9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Harris et al and Lawrenson et al are cited to show apparatus for removing coatings.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung V Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-0036. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 6:30-3:00.

11. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph J Hail can be reached on 703-308-2687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9302.

12. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.

DVN
November 20, 2003


DUNG VAN NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER